

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

1. Amendment of the specification:

Paragraph [0021] is amended to fix a typo. No new matter is introduced. Allowance of the amendment is politely requested.

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2. Rejection of claims 1-7:

Claims 1-7, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Dor et al., (US 6,744,266 B2).

10 **Response:**

Claim 7 is merged into claim 1 and is therefore canceled. No new matter is introduced. Allowance of the amendment is politely requested.

In the currently amended 1, it is clear that the data pre-treatment step further
15 comprises subtracting a defect position recorded by the wafer defect raw data of a prior wafer inspection station from the wafer defect raw data corresponding to a given wafer inspection station to generate the data of a new defect in the wafer inspection station. Because the new defect is generated by subtracting a defect position recorded by the
wafer defect raw data of a prior wafer inspection station from the wafer defect raw data
20 corresponding to a given wafer inspection station, the new defect can be found efficiently.

However though Dor et al. teach alignment of images, they fail to teach generating the new defect through subtraction of a defect position recorded by the wafer defect raw data of a prior wafer inspection station from the wafer defect raw data corresponding to a
25 given wafer inspection station. Therefore Dor et al. fail to teach an efficient way of finding a new defect.

It is therefore believed that the currently amended claim 1 cannot be anticipated by Dor et al. and should be allowable. Since claims 2-6 are dependent on the currently
30 amended claim 1, they should be allowable if the currently amended claim 1 is allowable.

Applicants respectfully request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

5 Sincerely yours,

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15 D.C. is 12 hours behind the Taiwan time, i.e. 9 AM in D.C. = 9 PM in Taiwan.)